SUMMER 2017

NEWSLETTER OF THE NAVIGATORS OF NEW ZEALAND



NEXT DOOR TO EVERYWHERE

"God, how are you going to fulfil your promises to us?" This was my prayer as I stepped into my current role with the Navigators. As I prayed God impressed on me four big themes: the importance of labourers or kingdom workers, holding on to promises, pressing in to prayer and broadening leadership. God is growing these themes in the Navigator work as we follow his leading and calling to us.

This edition of Navigate focuses on the essential place of labourers. What does it mean to be a labourer for

"We see a vital movement of the Gospel, fuelled by prevailing prayer, flowing freely through relational networks...Workers for the Kingdom are next door to everywhere!"

From Our Navigators Vision

God right where you are? What might this look like in the midst of work and family commitments?

Our Navigator vision talks about workers or labourers being 'next door to everywhere'. God places each one of us in workplaces, neighbourhoods, communities and networks. These are our primary places to live as labourers. Often living out our faith in these places is

challenging. This is where we need help from God and help from one another.

Simon Cayzer National Director



Sign up for these new Navigator blogs below at our website (www.navigators.org.nz) or by emailing info@navigators.org.nz



LABOURING IN HIS KINGDOM

Matthew 9:35-10:1(NIV)

9³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."

When Jesus urged his disciples to pray for labourers in Matthew 9 (see above), he had three big themes in mind: an approaching Kingdom (v35), a helpless Flock (v36) and a ripening Harvest (v37). The approaching kingdom needed *ambassadors* who knew the heart and mind of the King, and who could explain the Gospel of the Kingdom. The helpless flock needed compassionate *shepherds* who could get alongside people and lovingly meet their needs. The ripening harvest needed determined and committed *workers* who could roll up their sleeves and do the hard work.

Jesus presents us with a clear picture what it means to be a labourer. At its heart, it involves bringing people to God and God to people. Helping people become transformed citizens of the Kingdom of God, and bringing God and his Kingdom into the world as a transforming presence. We capture this in our Navigator Calling, *"To advance the Gospel of Jesus and His Kingdom into the nations through spiritual generations of labourers living and discipling among the lost."*

We are the result of the labour of the generations that have gone before us. It is because others rose to the challenge that we are here today. But not all who have been reached with the Gospel have become labourers in the Kingdom. Why is this? Many say, "I am not up to this. I don't feel I have what it takes to be a labourer. It feels overwhelming", and they excuse themselves. At the other end of the spectrum people say, "This is awesome. I have been looking for something big to give myself to". These and similar responses share a common problem. They are self-focused, and they will not result in the type of labourers Jesus is looking for.

As we read Matthew 9:35-10:1 again, we discover

not "me", and "us together" with God. Jesus calls together his band of twelve labourers and immediately sends them out two by two to see what God will do. It is interesting that of the twenty-one times the New Testament uses the word labourer, on eleven occasions it adds the prefix "co", co-labourer. It is a good thing to attend a weekly Bible study group. It is quite another to be part of a band of co-labourers who commit to one another to take Kingdom initiatives. Co-labourers ask questions like; "What has God been saying to you lately? How can we support you in this? Where is God at work around us? How can we join God in what he is doing?" Co-labourers keep one another accountable, encouraged and humble. Co-labourers embrace the "ordinary you", and the power of God at work among us. Of Jesus' original band we read; "When they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived they were uneducated, common men, they were astonished, and recognized they had been with Jesus (Acts 4:13)".

At any one time a labourer may or may not be part of a local band of labourers that meets regularly. The band may come and go, but a labourer will always be on the lookout for people to co-labour with, even from a distance. He or she will be drawn like a magnet to others who are trusting in the Holy Spirit to work in and through them.

The wonderful thing is that all of this is eminently doable. We just need to be willing and available. God will provide the people and the power for us to be the type of labourers Jesus is seeking. Who could you be colabouring with? What steps could you take to grow your co-labouring? As co-labourers, what could you trust God for together, things that only God can do?

-Lynton Brocklehurst -

Jesus' focus is elsewhere. He is challenging the disciples not as individuals but as a band. He actually forms them into a band of labourers on the spot, and makes it clear they will not be operating out of their own abilities, but by the power of God. It is "us"



STORIES OF LABOURING AROUND NZ

Peter and Keri Revell organise Kauaeranga Valley (Thames) monthly concerts providing excellent and affordable live music to encourage connections in their community. Typically, fifty to sixty people attend these events. It gives Peter and Keri a unique opportunity to show hospitality to talented musicians, many of whom struggle to make a living from their music. Simple things such as giving thanks to God over shared meals can be conversation starters.



Kendra Roddis. I met Tania (not her real name) a year and a half ago. Tania came from a deeply dysfunctional family and had been hurt when rejected from church in her teens. More than anything she needed to experience God's love and grace. Our first 'God conversation' happened the afternoon before an exam. When we met to study she mentioned the night prior she'd prayed to God for the first time in years. I ended up sharing my testimony, talking about God's love, and apologising for the hurt she'd received at the hands of 'Christians.' After our exam, Tania and I went for a walk up Rapaki track. Near the top of the hill the Holy



Spirit guided me to pray for Tania when she experienced intense pain in her head. God delivered Tania, and she prayed to receive Jesus into her heart. During this prayer she said she felt a heaviness lift and peace enter. Since then it's been an exciting, challenging and beautiful journey with her. The most recent chapter has seen her witnessing to a work colleague who also wanted to learn more about God. Our Navigators Graduate's group recently gave Tania a beautiful new bible, so she passed her spare Bible on to her colleague.

LYDIA CARSON'S THOUGHTS FROM THE NG2017



At this year's National Gathering in Auckland, Simon Cayzer spoke on having expectant faith in God's amazing promises. A promise the Navigators are praying is Isaiah 44:3-4. This paints a picture of vibrant growth that God makes happen by his Spirit. We were encouraged to ask God for promises in the Bible to pray and believe God for. A highlight for me was seeing how Simon and Juliet team. The topics for the small groups were so good it was hard to choose! I got a lot out of the one I attended, entitled 'fixing my big mistakes'. All the materials from the small groups are on the Navigator's website (www.navigators.org.nz). Another highlight was catching up with

Anthony (Christchurch's Settlers Team), and hearing about his recent work over a cuppa. To wrap up a fabulous weekend of teaching, updates and great chats, on Sunday morning we heard about where the NZ Navigators are heading, and some of the exciting things God is doing.

OBITUARY - SANDY FAIRSERVICE

31 March 1943 – 11 October 2017

Sandy was an unstoppable, optimistic evangelist. He gave his heart to the Lord in the 1960's when he met the Navigators. He and his wife Judy have played a major role in the life of the NZ Navigators for over fifty years. Sandy served in student ministries in Melbourne's Institute of Technology and at Lincoln University, and was responsible for Navigators media and communications for many years. He was involved with evangelism and discipling, a fervent student of the Bible, and a teacher to small groups of students and workers around him in Christchurch. Always in love with radio, in the last few years Sandy transformed Christian Resource Centre's fledgling internet radio service into a low power FM radio station. He recorded some 30 hours of interviews, mixed them with easy-listening music, and broadcast the package in an endless loop, 24/7 from an aerial on his home.





NEW FACES/MINISTRIES



Prakash Primulapathi—National Leader of 20's-30's Ministries

My vision is for followers of Christ to live out their faith in their workplaces, and to be rivers of hope and new life to the thirsty people around them (Isaiah 41:18-20). In my role encouraging and supporting graduates, I have Skyped with people, caught up over coffee, prayed for people, walked and talked, and sent many emails. God has steadily

developed in me a heart to see people saved, and grow to be passionate followers of Christ for the long haul. From February 2018, I will work with Navigators to expand and broaden the initiatives we are taking in our national 20's-30's work.

Tim and Leah Simpson - National Leaders of Student Ministries

From January 2018 we will start a new role jointly leading the NZ Navigators national student work. We will focus on growing the Navigators work amongst students, as well as supporting and strengthening our current campus ministries. Other key areas include developing new leaders and resources, and helping transition students to graduate groups. Importantly, we will continue to serve on the ground with the University of Canterbury campus work. We both desire to love, encourage and



support our student staff and leaders, and increase our national sense of shared calling and teamwork.



Peter and Annette Beavon – National Leaders of Cross Cultural Missions

God is putting cross-cultural missions on the hearts of people in our movement, particularly amongst some in their 20s-30s. We are keen to support this, grow our collective heart for the nations as Navigators, and facilitate short and long term cross-cultural mission ventures.

Sharon Paine - National Communications/National Leadership Team (NLT)

I am based in Wellington and have been involved with the Navigators since 1997. I joined the NLT in 2017 where I enjoy using my work experience in strategy development, communications and project management to support Simon's leadership and contribute to the future of the Navigators. I also head communications for the Navigators. My vision is to enable us all to easily access tools that we can then use to live out our Navigator vision. So watch this space!





Kirsty Greenwell - Leader of Massey Campus Ministry

Having studied and worked at Massey in Palmerston North for ten years, I'm really excited to be able to spend the majority of my time with students encouraging them in their faith and sharing the gospel! My vision is to see students who are fiercely committed to Christ sharing their faith effectively with their friends. I enjoy meeting the friends of students involved with Navigators, and naturally starting faith conversations. This enables Navigator students to continue these discussions as their friendships develop.

Graeme Sterne – International Ministries

Many years ago God put on my heart Zechariah 8:23 and the desire to reach and disciple people from other nations. I have come back on staff with the Navigators to facilitate an exciting work amongst international students and graduates in Auckland and the Pacific Islands. Through prayer and encouragement, I want to see groups of disciples and labourers growing and multiplying throughout Auckland, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. God has given me a special heart for our Pacific neighbours, and opportunities to visit Tonga and Fiji to encourage the growing number of people involved with the Navigators.

NATIONAL GATHERING 2018

Our 2018 National Gathering will be in Christchurch, October 5-7. Our speaker is Mutua Mahiaini, the International President for the Navigators. Our theme is, 'The Difference is Faith'. Mutua and Stephanie will bring inspiration, encouragement, and stories from around the Navigator world. Plan on joining us for this unique event.



